

REMARKS

1. Response to Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §112

With respect to the first objection, it appears that “bending bar” in former claims 5, 6, 25, and 26 should be --sensor--, new claims 31-37 now make it clear that the extensometer strips are part of the sensor.

With respect to the objection to the term “sensitive” in former claims 14 and 19 being unclear, this term has been replaced by the phrase “said bobbin material is taken from the group consisting of carbon fibers and glass fibers.” Support for this amendment is found on page 1, lines 17-19 of the application.

2. Response To Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-3, 5-8, 14-16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over *Grundy et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 4,546,656, hereinafter *Grundy*). Applicants note that claims 1-3, 5-8, 14-16 and 19 have been canceled.

3. Response To Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

a. Claims 9-12, 17, 18, 20-23 and 25-27

Claims 9-12, 17, 18, 20-23 and 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Grundy*. As previously noted, claims 9-12, 17, 18, 20-23 and 25-27 have been canceled.

b. Claims 13 and 28-30

Claims 13 and 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Grundy* in view of *Canfield* (U.S. Patent No. 3,526,130). As previously noted, claims 13 and 28-30 have been canceled.

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4. New Claims 31-37

Claims 31-37 have been newly added to further define and/or clarify the scope of the invention. Applicants respectfully assert that *Grundy*, either alone or in combination with other of the cited references, does not disclose, teach or suggest the following highlighted features of newly added independent claims 31 and 35. Independent claim 31 states:

A winding machine for winding up bobbin material arriving from a feeding apparatus, comprising:

a winding spindle being designed and arranged to be rotated by a drive; and

a unit for determining a signal which is approximately proportional to the tension of the bobbin material, **said signal serving to control the drive**, said unit including

an arm being designed and arranged to be movable to a limited extent, said arm including a bending bar, said bending bar having a nominal bending portion being formed by tapered portions,

only one sensor including a plurality of extensometer strips, said extensometer strips being arranged in the nominal bending portion and being designed and arranged to sense deflection of said bending bar, and

only one roller being arranged at said arm, said only one roller being designed and arranged to guide the bobbin material to contact the feeding apparatus and said roller without contacting other elements in between.

(Emphasis added). Similarly, independent claim 35 recites:

A winding machine for winding up bobbin material arriving from a plurality of feeding apparatuses, comprising:

a plurality of winding spindles each being designed and arranged to be rotated by a drive;

a plurality of traversing apparatuses each being designed and arranged to cooperate with one of said winding spindles to wind up the bobbin material; and

a plurality of units each for determining a signal which is approximately proportional to the tension of the bobbin material, **said signals serving to control the drive**, each of said units including

an arm being designed and arranged to be movable to a limited extent, said arm including a bending bar, said bending bar having a nominal bending portion being formed by tapered portions,

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only one sensor including a plurality of extensometer strips, said extensometer strips being arranged in the nominal bending portion and being designed and arranged to sense deflection of said bending bar, and only one roller being arranged at said arm, said only one roller being designed and arranged to guide the bobbin material to contact the respective feeding apparatus and said respective roller without contacting other elements in between.

(Emphasis added).

More specifically, *Grundy* does not show the structure of Applicants' winding machine as only including one sensor. Instead, *Grundy* teaches a comparatively complicated arrangement of two sensors being located at an angle of 90° with respect to one another. (See col. 7, lines 35-40 and 55-59). In addition, the sensors known from *Grundy* are not located in the nominal bending portion having a reduced diameter. As it is to be clearly seen from Fig. 1 of *Grundy*, the sensors 28 and 30 are located almost at the opposite end of the beam 20, and therefore comparatively far away from the tapered section 21.

Additionally, it is not known from *Grundy* to use the signal of the sensors to control the drive of the winding machine.

In summary, the winding machine as claimed in new independent claims 31 and 35, and claims 32-34 and 36-37 which depend therefrom, respectively, teaches a construction which is less complicated and thus more effective and cost-saving than the construction known from *Grundy*.

5. Canceled Claims 1-30

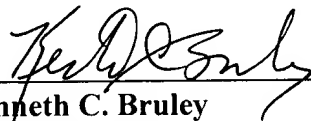
In the interest of expediting issuance of claims 31-37, Applicants have canceled claims 1-30 through this response without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to present these canceled claims, or variants thereof, in a continuing application to be filed subsequently.

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CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims 31-37 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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